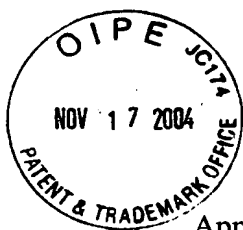


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/831,150 Confirmation No. 1030
Applicant : Bernhard RUPP et al.
Filed : November 22, 2002
TC/A.U. : 2834
Examiner : J. A. Aguirrechea

Docket No. : R.36254
Customer No. : 02119

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: November 17, 2004

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the FINAL Office action of September 3, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.